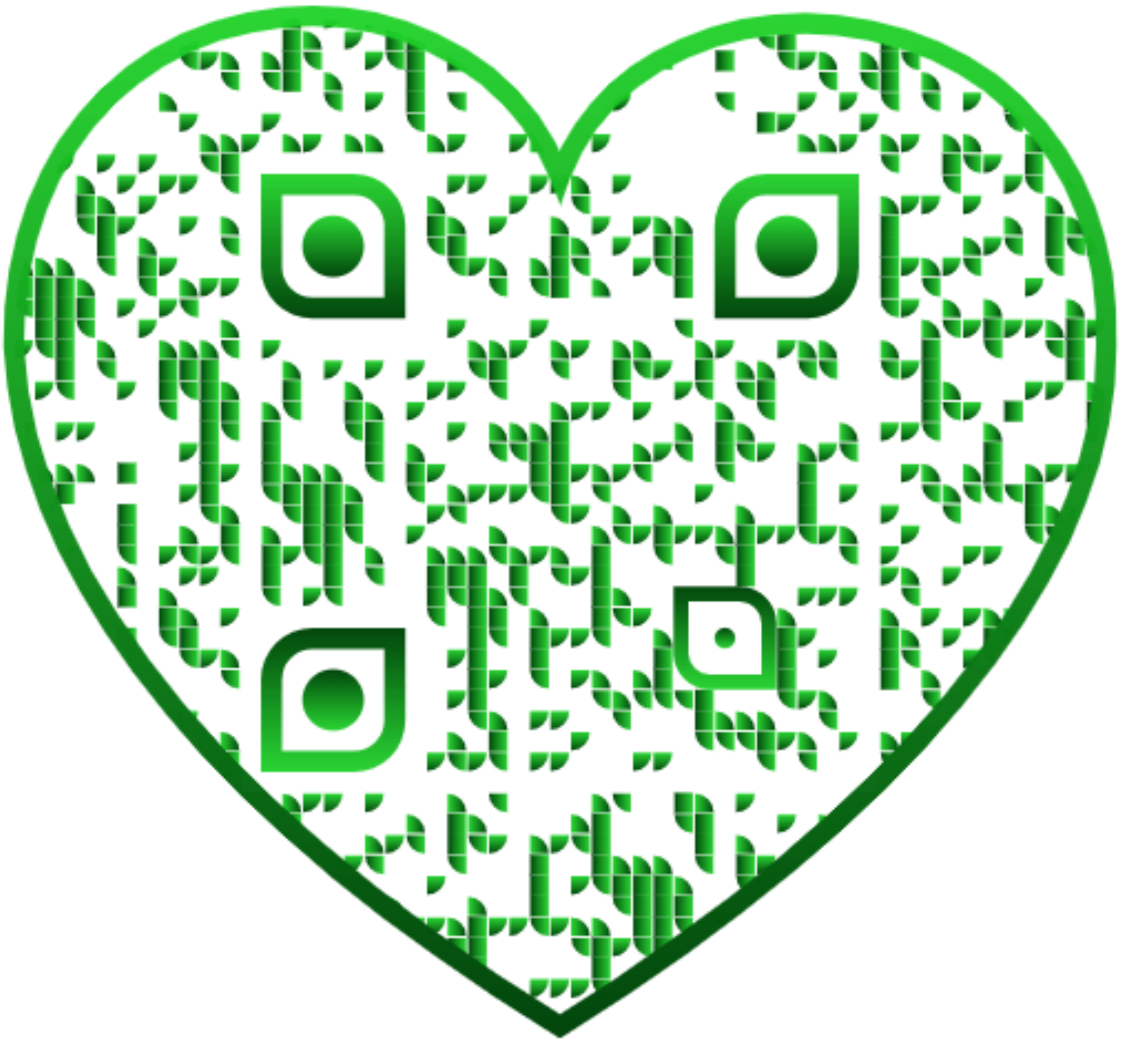
NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS

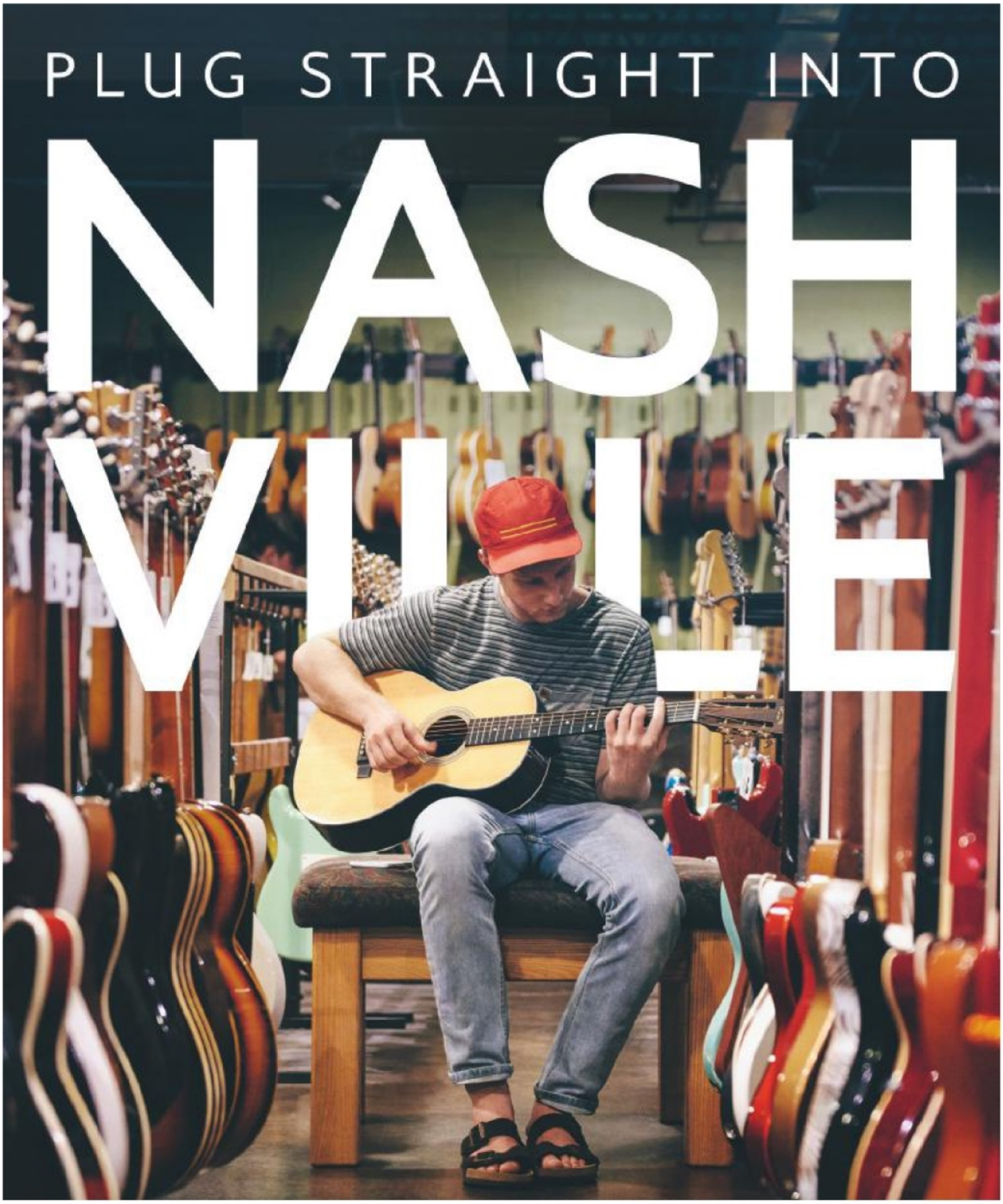
NME

FIND THE FESTIVAL FOR YOU



BRITISH AIRWAYS

Carter Vintage Guitars, 5.09pm



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NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS

NME AT THE FESTIVALS 2018

Hello...

WE'RE BACK! LOL. Well, not quite, but in a year where the fields of Worthy Farm are taking a well-earned break, it seemed more important than ever to tell you about all the other places you can get off your mash this summer. So here it is, the NME Festival Guide 2018.

My first festival experience, aged 16, was Reading. The lineup was huge: Pulp, Rage Against The Machine, Oasis, Elliott Smith. I will never forget our friend Michael causing Foo Fighters to stop playing because he was getting crushed down the front. (Cheers Dave).

But despite the stellar lineup, the things I remember most from that festival, and so many since, is looking across and seeing your mates beaming and bellowing out your favourite tunes. You connect with people when you're grubby and drunk in a way that you don't anywhere else on earth. So whichever one of these glorious parties you spend your cash on this year, take some mates, make new ones and tell us all your stories. See you by the watermelon stand.

CHARLOTTE GUNN
NME Editor @charliegunn

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NME Festival Guide
It's big, it's comprehensive and it starts here

26
Fall Out Boy
Meet your Reading & Leeds headliners

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Wolf Alice
The festival heroes on a summer of fun to come

COVER ILLUSTRATION: SAM BRIDGE. CONTENTS PHOTO: GETTY

NME

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YOUR SUMMER OF WAY TOO MUCH FUN IS ALMOST HERE

PHOTO: ROGER SARGENT

And to tell you the honest truth, we couldn't be happier. Festival season is finally upon us, meaning it's time to retrieve your fairy wings from the cupboard under the stairs, start mixing up danger bottles to sip by your tents at midday and stock up on beard glitter. Before you shake off last year's dried-on mud from your wellies, settle down with this special one-off issue of **NME**, your guide through the action-packed maze that is the UK and Europe's fezzie scene. Seeing as there's so many of them around we're giving you all the info you need to choose where you splash your hard-earned cash. Our findings in brief: there's something for everyone, the ones abroad aren't necessarily more expensive than the ones down the road from you, and it's a good summer to be an Arctic Monkeys fan. As well as helping you decide if you should be booking a coach to Leeds or a plane to Spain, we're also chatting to the likes of Wolf Alice, Liam Gallagher, Fall Out Boy and more about what we can expect from their summer appearances. We'll see you in the mosh.

Love, NME

The (crowd)surf's up at Cornish festival Boardmasters

NME AT THE FESTIVALS 2018
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LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for surf dudes

BOARDMASTERS

When: 8-12 August
Where: Watergate Bay, Cornwall
Who's headlining: Catfish And The Bottlemen, The Chemical Brothers, George Ezra
Who else is playing: Kano, Years & Years, Rag'n'Bone Man, Everything Everything, Friendly Fires
Tickets: £154, weekend camping

Yo, gnarly festival, dude! Yes yes, nice surfer-speak. Boardmasters is indeed the place where 'boogers' can get 'amped' on a 'choka' line-up across the four main stages.
You've never surfed in your life, have you? I am, ahem, way out of my depth here.
Do you have to surf to enjoy Boardmasters? It might sell itself as the *Point Break* that rocks, but you can get in the Boardmasters zone without ever strapping yourself to a plank. Chill on Fistral Beach watching the Pro Surf and BMX competitions, join a waterside yoga class or just lounge around a barbeque making up stories about dropping into an awesome barrel in Waikiki one time and you'll slot in just fine.
And if I want to surf the various musical vibes instead? If the closest you've ever got to putting a wetsuit on is snogging along to The Vaccines, you'll find the rock in the Land Of Saints tent, the dance and grime in Unleashed and the big names on the main stage, brewster.
That's enough bad surfer slang now.
Um, cowabunga?

The one that's nautical but nice

VICTORIOUS

When: 24-26 August
Where: Southsea Seafront, Portsmouth
Who's headlining: The Libertines, Paul Weller, The Prodigy
Who else is playing: Kaiser Chiefs, Paloma Faith, Brian Wilson, Years & Years, Friendly Fires, Happy Mondays
Tickets: £33-49.50 for day tickets

Avast, y'indie lubbers! Brace the mainsail, The Libertines' good ship Albion has been raised from the inky depths and is setting sail bound for Portsmouth's burgeoning seafront pop shindig. Former Beach Boys man Brian Wilson singing his odes to the ocean by The Solent? Wouldn't it be nice!

PHOTO: GETTY, PRESS/ALEX RAWSON

2018

BOARDMASTERS

8-12 AUGUST

SURF & MUSIC FESTIVAL ON THE CORNISH COAST

CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN · The Chemical Brothers · george ezra

KANO · YEARS & YEARS · RAG'N'BONE MAN
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Liam Gallagher

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Two Door Cinema Club,

The one for those who miss their T

TRNSMT

When: 29 June – 8 July
Where: Glasgow Green, Glasgow
Who's headlining: Arctic Monkeys, The Killers, Liam Gallagher, Queen + Adam Lambert
Who else is playing: The Script, James Bay, Courteeners, Wolf Alice, J Hus, Interpol, Blossoms, Chvrches, Franz Ferdinand, Pale Waves
Tickets: £260 for all five days, £155 for three-day ticket, day tickets £59.50-65

Remember T In The Park? Ah, Biffy Clyro, group tactical vomits, shitting by some bins – glory days.
Whatever happened to it? Some ospreys told it to bugger off, and there was a monumental traffic jam to get out. So now we have TRNSMT instead, in the far more accessible environs of Glasgow Green.
Will it be as messy? As messy as the noble Scots can make it and, having won a Best New Festival award in 2017, it'll definitely be every bit as good. The headliners are world class, and though some of the support acts seem to be there to lure in passing trade on its way to All Bar One (hello James Bay), it's a winning list.
Still, what about them Monkeys, eh? Quite, TRNSMT is the only UK festival headline set Arctic Monkeys have announced so far.
So it's basically our only chance to see them in 2018? There is a tour, but this is your one for Monkeys-in-a-field thrills. Unless you happen to go to Europe at any point where, looking at their exhaustive schedule, they'll almost certainly be playing within 50 feet of your hotel.

The one for Finsbury Parklifers

COMMUNITY

When: 1 July
Where: Finsbury Park, London
Who's headlining: Two Door Cinema Club
Who else is playing: The Vaccines, You Me At Six, Circa Waves, Rat Boy, Sundara Karma
Tickets: £40

The community referred to by this brand new one-dayer from the team behind Reading & Leeds is, presumably, indie kids, who'll be salivating over the chance to watch some of Britain and Ireland's best indie-pop-rock kneeknockers all on the same bill.

Pale Waves

How's your year been?
Heather Baron-Gracie (vocals, guitar): "Pretty mental – amazing experiences and our band seemed to take off. A crazy year."
When's the album out?
Heather: "We're aiming for August if all goes well."
Just in time for Reading & Leeds!
What did you think of the criticism about the lack of guitars on the line-up?
Ciara Doran (drums): "Why does it have to be guitar-heavy? Music can come from any instrument."
Heather: "Exactly, it doesn't just have to be guitar music.
Are you hoping for a Number One?
Ciara: "You can't not aim for a Number One.
I think it deserves it as well!"

PHOTO: DEAN CHALKLEY, GETTY

Why Austin is the ultimate music city

The Texan metropolis is the must-see place for live music fans. Here's why

It's home to South By Southwest®
The long-running new music festival has been a key hub of discovery for many years now. MIA, Janelle Monáe, Alabama Shakes and many more have all found a global audience after early appearances there.

The local music scene
Head to Austin on any regular week and you'll be able to find a ton of great bands to entertain you. Home of the likes of Spoon and White Denim, it's also a hotbed of up-and-coming talent, such as rock'n'rollers Black Pistol Fire or R&B singer Mélat, or the acoustic tenderness of Hovvdy.

The biggest artists always appear at Austin City Limits
The line-up for 2018 has yet to be announced, but you can bet it'll be another corker. Last year, Jay-Z, Red Hot Chili Peppers, The xx, Skepta, and Chance The Rapper were among the acts to appear at the October event.

Levitation books the best of the underground
If you like your music a little weirder, Austin's got you covered too. The annual Levitation weekender brings together boundary-pushers and psych heroes. This year, they've nabbed big names including The Brian Jonestown Massacre, Ariel Pink and Ty Segall to play alongside Stranger Things soundtrackers S U R V I V E, Colombian funk troupe Superfónicos, Brazilian psych heads Boogarins and more.

It also boasts the longest-running music series in US TV history
The Austin City Limits TV series has been going since 1976 and there's even an Austin venue, The Moody Theater, for the express purpose of filming the show. Fans can enter to win tickets for tapings, and over the years everyone from Pearl Jam to Oasis have appeared.

There's still plenty of room for other mega events like the Formula 1
Austin might be the Live Music Capital of the World®, but it still has plenty of room for other activities too. The American leg of Formula 1 is currently hosted at the city's Circuit Of The Americas track, giving residents and enthusiasts even more entertainment.

PHOTO: ANDY FORDE

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All Points East: an artist's impression

NME AT THE FESTIVALS 2018
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LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one Londoners are very bloody excited about

ALL POINTS EAST

When: 25 May – 3 June
Where: Victoria Park, London
Who's headlining: The xx, LCD Soundsystem, Bjork, Catfish & The Bottlemen, The National, Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds
Who else is playing: Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Phoenix, Lorde, Justice, Beck, Father John Misty, St Vincent, Patti Smith, Confidence Man
Tickets: £39.95-£59.95 for individual shows, £169.95 for weekend festival ticket

Woah. Right?
It's like every Victoria Park festival ever just landed on each other and started having passionate, electro-flecked sex. It couldn't get more East London if punters were shuttled from nearby tube stations on tiny bicycles and served burgers in man-buns.
But... how? It's a brand new 10-day event brought to you by the people behind Coachella. The first weekend comprises a three-day festival featuring The xx, LCD, Bjork, Yeah Yeah Yeahs and the like, then there are a bunch of free midweek 'In The Neighbourhood' events on the site, like cinema and street food pop-ups, before another three days of stand-alone shows headlined by Catfish & The Bottlemen, The National and Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds. Plus handpicked support bills to die for.
So kind of British Summer Time but really, really brilliant? And not a whiff of Michael Buble.
But what's happened to Field Day? Funny you should ask...

Loyle Carner

The one that used to be where All Points East is

FIELD DAY

When: 1-2 June
Where: Brockwell Park, London
Who's headlining: Erykah Badu, AJ Tracey
Who else is playing: Children Of Zeus, Avalon Emerson, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Cornelius, Loyle Carner
Tickets: £89, weekend ticket

Shunted out of Victoria Park by All Points East, the hipster haven of Field Day lands in Brixton with as inspiring a line-up of edgy underground talent as ever. Always esoteric, this year's line-up is no letdown. Best start Googling where Brockwell Park is now.

PHOTO: GETTY

Janet Planet, Confidence Man

You were a big hit at the Aussie festivals last year, right?
"Yeah, Golden Plains was particularly insane. We'd only been a band for a month or two, and within probably 10 minutes of us playing there was this huge crowd literally running down the hill. At, like, 2pm on a Sunday. That video went viral and we'd sold out our Melbourne show before we got home."

Is having fun your key aim onstage?
"When I get up on stage I just kind of do my own thing, so the audience feels like they can do the same. That in itself is the best part about the band, just getting up there and everyone thinking that what I'm doing is intentional – but actually I'm just not very good. People find that really freeing. There's not enough dork in dance music these days, and that's what we bring a bit of. The more money we make, the more we'll throw at the show. I want to ride in on white horses."

HEADING OUT

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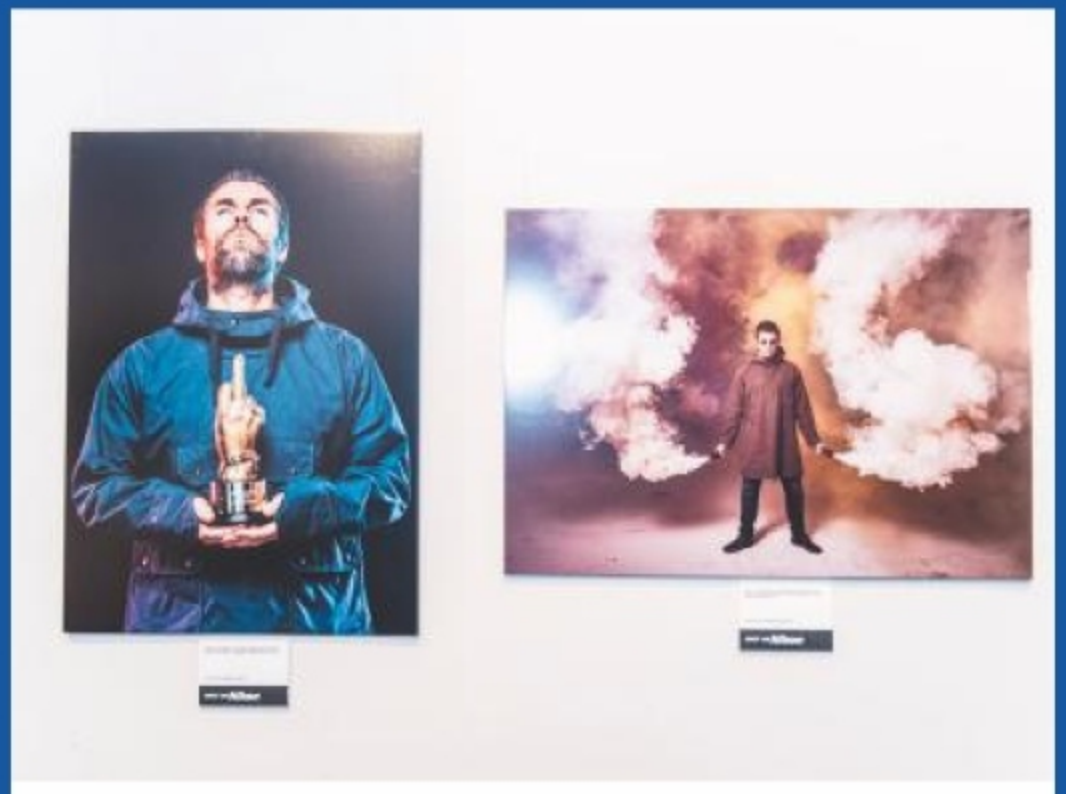
A night out with DJ Goldierocks, VO5 ambassador for the VO5 NME Awards 2018

PARTY STARTER
The VO5 NME Awards 2018 ended with a bang at the Closing Party at Omeara, London. Goldierocks wore her “favourite vintage fur coat”, bought “on the way to Burning Man”.

VERY IMPORTANT PERSON
Lanyard in hand, Goldierocks headed out to enjoy the night, and was later joined by the “lovely” winners of Best British Band at the VO5 NME Awards 2018, Alt-J.

STRIKE A POSE
Life’s fundamental rule had to be obeyed: if you don’t get a picture for the ‘Gram, were you even there? This photobooth allowed Goldie to star in her own NME cover.



GODLIKE ART
On the walls at Omeara were a selection of iconic NME photographs, including these shots of 2018’s Godlike Genius, Liam Gallagher, and his cheeky trophy.

PHOTOS: CAITLIN MOGRIDGE

ON THE DECKS
Goldierocks warmed up the crowd with a killer DJ set, blasting out "loads of new music" and some "indie disco hits".

WHAT'S YOUR TIPPLE?
Goldierocks is "definitely a gin girl" and luckily, BULLDOG were on hand to provide a gin and tonic, or three.

STAR ATTRACTION
Alt-J treated us to a set of total classics spanning their three albums to date. "It was such an intimate show," says Goldie.

HOT TICKET
Goldie watched Best British Band winners Alt-J from "a perfect balcony" overlooking the stage. Next stop, the festivals.

SOLID GOLD
Goldierocks' top five floor fillers

1 SWITCH
'A Bit Patchy'
"I was watching Rob Da Bank DJ once and he dropped this – it was my eureka moment with dance culture."

2 D RACK 'EM
'Wonky Bassline Disco Banger'
"This is bonkers and I'm totally obsessed with it. I'm going to rinse it this summer."

3 KDA
'Hate Me (ft. Patrick Cash)'
"This is the most important piece of dance music made in the last 10 years. It's about racial tension in the UK."

4 SISTER SLEDGE
'Lost In Music'
"An iconic disco tune that brings out your inner diva. It's about believing in music and the escapism of partying."

5 DEAD OR ALIVE
'You Spin Me Right Round (Like A Record)'
"A nice jolly one to end your set with. It always leaves people elated and happy."

SEE YA At the end of the night we had to bid the VO5 NME Awards 2018 adieu. "The party went on so late," says Goldie. "So rock 'n' roll for a Monday!"

GOLDEN SUMMER
Catch Goldie Rocks DJ-ing at Bestival, where she plays the Temple on Friday

We dare you to go to Portmeirion and not Instagram it

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

Cate le Bon

The one off that telly show your da likes

FESTIVAL NO. 6

When: 6-9 September
Where: Portmeirion, Wales
Who's headlining: The The, Friendly Fires, Franz Ferdinand
Who else is playing: Everything Everything, The Charlatans, Jessie Ware, Hurts, Django Django, Ride
Tickets: £180, weekend camping

Who are you? The new Number Two.
Who is Number One? You are Number Six.
I am not a number! I am a free man! Hahaha! Right, fancy a quinoa flapjack?
I've woken up at Festival Number 6, haven't I? Indeed, the festival held in the gorgeous Italianate Welsh village of Portmeirion, themed around the baffling 60s cult TV show *The Prisoner* that was filmed here.
Why am I here? To bask in the stunning scenery, take in the Brythoniaid Choir singing 'Bohemian Rhapsody' on the town centre colonnade and gasp at the acrobats swinging from gigantic white guard balloons.
A classy cult affair then? The very classiest. You can catch arthouse cinema, Will Self talks and, um Suggs's show *What A King Cnut*.
I assume there's a parade? Full of gigantic neon skeletons, ending at the on-site pub.
Let's get out there then. You're the boss, Number Two.

The one for real ale drinkers

GREEN MAN

When: 16-19 August
Where: Crickhowell, Wales
Who's headlining: The War On Drugs, Fleet Foxes, King Gizzard And The Lizard Wizard
Who else is playing: John Grant, Grizzly Bear, Dirty Projectors, Public Service Broadcasting, Cate le Bon
Tickets: £180, weekend camping

Set in a bucolic Welsh idyll and populated by weird and worthy artists, Green Man is the alt.folk and cult rock eco-wonderland where you can expect your Pringle sweater to be drenched in a home-brew called something like Goblin's Bowelcramps within a few minutes of arrival at its glorious site.

Rat Boy

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for rural hedonists

KENDAL CALLING

When: 26-29 July
Where: Lowther Deer Park, Lake District
Who's headlining: Catfish & The Bottlemen, The Libertines, Run DMC
Who else is playing: Ocean Colour Scene, James, Shed Seven, The Sherlocks
Tickets: £154, weekend camping

As featured on *Festivals, Sex And Suspicious Parents* –and surely no further endorsement is needed – Kendal Calling is the Lake District's premier indie rock free-for-all and one of the country's most sought-after small fest tickets. And you can tell your suspicious parents you're going hiking.

The one that's small and friendly and doesn't cost loads

TRUCK FESTIVAL

When: 20-22 June
Where: Hill Farm, Oxfordshire
Who's headlining: Friendly Fires, George Ezra, The Courteeners
Who else is playing: Editors, De La Soul, Jake Bugg, Drenge, Rat Boy, The Magic Gang
Tickets: £110, weekend ticket

It's called Truck because the main stage is made of three flatbed trucks, right? Wrong! It's named after the soundtrack from the movie *Convoy*, called 'Ten Trucking Greats' that founder Robin Bennett picked up once.
The stage is made of trucks, though? Lucky coincidence. Truck is the "Godfather of the small festival scene", it says here… It prides itself on its limited stature. Like a miniature Glastonbury that you don't need GPS to get around, it's set on a working farm of around 5000 maximum capacity, the punk and metal stage is a cow shed awash with the heady scent of manure and the local vicar sells ice cream.
It's a family affair then? Assuming your family has the sort of connections to get George Ezra to come and play in the back of your Volvo. But if you mean 'will someone with painted-on whiskers teach my six-year-old how to juggle sticks?', yes they will.

PHOTO: LAURA PALMER, GETTY, TOM MARTIN

Gary Powell
THE LIBERTINES

You're headlining Kendal Calling this year – how are you feeling?
"Me and Carl [Barât] played Kendal Calling with Dirty Pretty Things way back. Someone ran through the festival and called me Mark Morrison, which I wasn't too pleased about because he's kind of butters. But it's gonna be good to go back to an English homegrown festival, plus it's a great line-up this year. Who needs Glastonbury?"

How's progress on the new album?
"There's a lot of stuff going on. We just need to finally get back together and figure out what direction we're going in."

Is it true you've just opened a hotel up in hipster seaside resort Margate?
"Yeah, the hotel is here to stay, it isn't a pop-up. It's like the good old days of Pete and Carl's Albion Rooms, a mecca for creative endeavours."

>LL POINTS E>ST

VICTORIA PARK
LONDON, E3

FRI 25 MAY

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

Yeah Yeah Yeahs > Phoenix

Glass Animals > Richie Hawtin CLOSE > Dixon > Nick Murphy fka Chet Faker
Chromeo > Young Fathers > George Fitzgerald LIVE > Hercules & Love Affair
Roman Flügel > DJ Tennis > Gerd Janson > Superorganism > Hookworms
Oscar and the Wolf > Confidence Man > Eclair Fifi > Fort Romeau
Knox Fortune > Lo Moon

SAT 26 MAY

THE XX

Lorde > Justice > Sampha

Soulwax > Lykke Li > Popcaan > BADBADNOTGOOD > Rhye > Stefflon Don
Rex Orange County > Omar-S > Hunee > ABRA > Sevdaliza > DJ Richard
Call Super > Shanti Celeste > DJ Python > Kojey Radical
Jesse James Solomon > Her > Beatrice Dillon

SUN 27 MAY

BJÖRK

Beck > Father John Misty

Friendly Fires > Tom Misch > Flying Lotus 3D > The Black Madonna
Django Django > Kelela > Mashrou' Leila > Sylvan Esso > Khruangbin
Maribou State DJS > Parcels > Alexis Taylor > Yellow Days > Yaeji > Octavian
Mr G Live > Agoria Live > Allie X > ItaloJohnson > Byron The Aquarius
Bones Garage > DEBONAIR

PLUS MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

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ALL WEEKEND LONG

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VICTORIA PARK
LONDON, E3

CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN

THE HUNNA > BLOSSOMS

FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD > THE AMAZONS
PLUS MANY MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

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THE NATIONAL

VERY SPECIAL GUESTS

THE WAR ON DRUGS
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WARPAINT > CAT POWER
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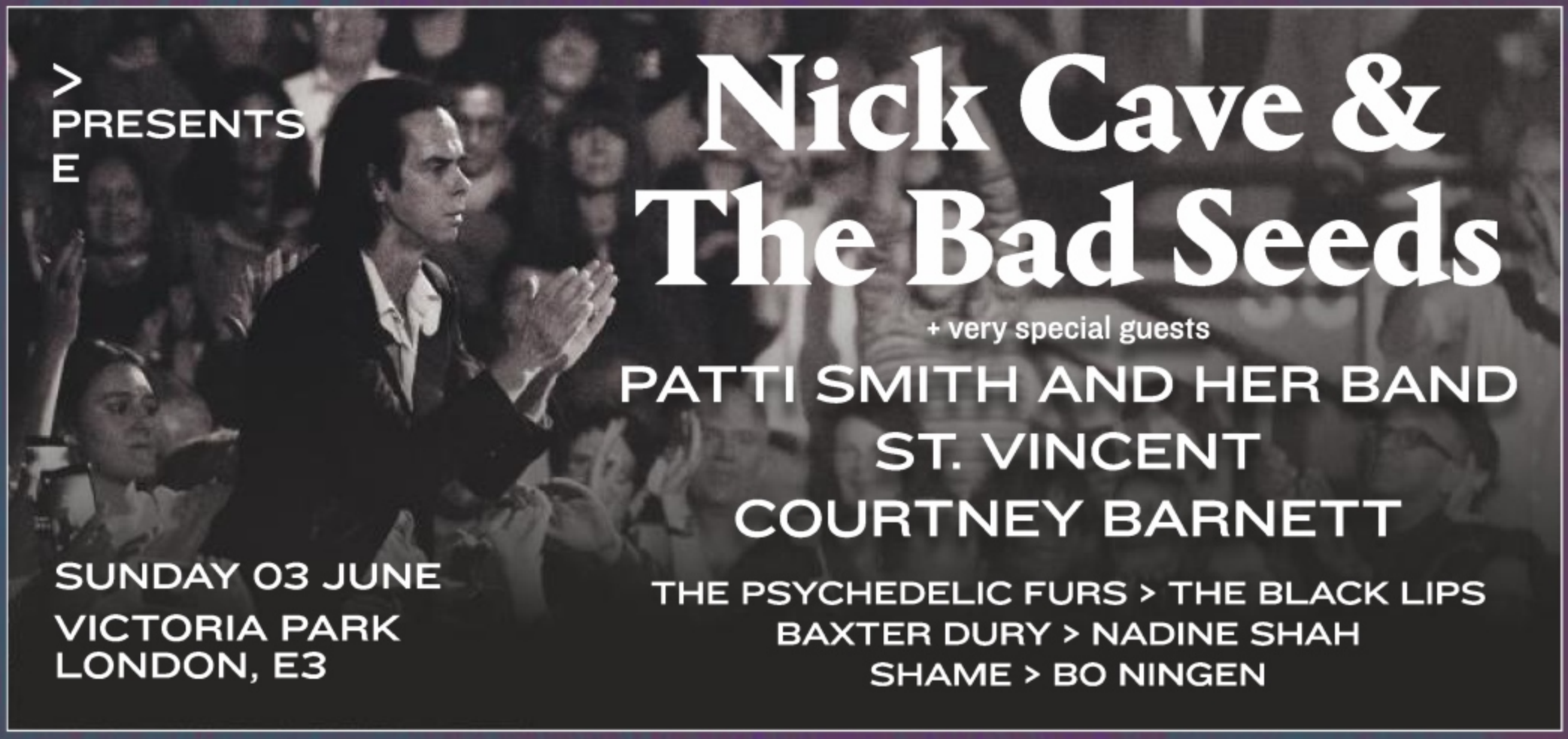
AMBER RUN > THIS IS THE KIT
THE DISTRICTS > ROSTAM
PLUS MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

SATURDAY 02 JUNE
VICTORIA PARK
LONDON, E3



> PRESENTS E

Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds

+ very special guests

PATTI SMITH AND HER BAND
ST. VINCENT
COURTNEY BARNETT

THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS > THE BLACK LIPS
BAXTER DURY > NADINE SHAH
SHAME > BO NINGEN

SUNDAY 03 JUNE
VICTORIA PARK
LONDON, E3

Goldenvoice axs amazon tickets Time Out

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THE INDEPENDENT

★★★★★
"THE TRUE START TO THE SUMMER'S FESTIVAL SEASON"
AMAZING RADIO

★★★★★
"A TRIUMPH"
DROWNED IN SOUND

★★★★★
"THE CITY WAS UNITED IN A SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS AND SPIRIT"
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LORDE · BONOBO · JAMIE XX · GIGGS · A$AP ROCKY · JUSTICE
CHVRCHES · J HUS · BUGZY MALONE · FOUR TET · SAMPHA
CARL COX · ERIC PRYDZ · ANNIE MAC · SOLOMUN · MARCO CAROLA · MK · ANDY C
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SIGRID · STEFFLON DON · MARIBOU STATE · THE BLAZE · IAMDDB · KELELA
EATS EVERYTHING · KÖLSCH · DAVID RODIGAN PRESENTS RAM JAM · RICHY AHMED · SOLARDO
MOTOR CITY DRUM ENSEMBLE · MABEL · EARL SWEATSHIRT · NOT3S · RAYE
SOUL II SOUL · YOUSEF · STEVE LAWLER · CAMELPHAT · ALAN FITZPATRICK
DENIS SULTA · MIDLAND · KINK · PEGGY GOU · MALL GRAB · ARTWORK
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YOUNG MARCO · HONEY DIJON · SHANTI CELESTE · KIM ANN FOXMAN · CRISTOPH
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VIRGIL ABLOH · JOE KAY (SOULECTION) · ROSS FROM FRIENDS LIVE · CONFIDENCE MAN
MNEK · DERMOT KENNEDY · JESSE JAMES SOLOMON · JAMZ SUPERNOVA · HAAI
DETLEF · ICARUS · RANDALL · YOTTO · MELLA DEE · OR:LA · LAUREN LANE · MELÉ
BONTAN · TONI VARGA · CHANNEL ONE · BARELY LEGAL · SOSSA · LAUREN LO SUNG · CHIMPO
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Skepta plays student-friendly Manchester fest Parklife

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for discerning Mancs (and Liam fans)

PARKLIFE

When: 9-10 June
Where: Heaton Park, Manchester
Who's headlining: Liam Gallagher, The xx
Who else is playing: Skepta, N.E.R.D., Chvrches, Lorde, Bonobo, Justice, Everything Everything
Tickets: £119.50, weekend ticket

The xx, Skepta, Lorde, A$AP Rocky, J Hus, Justice, Four Tet... Parklife is going to be the year's most on-point reflection of the varied and vital music scene of 2018, isn't it? Yup.
It's definitely not just going to be a hundred thousand or so Mancs bawling along to Liam Gallagher doing 'Rock'n'Roll Star', is it? Nope.
Phew. Look, even if, by some inconceivably unlikely happenstance, the place is over-run with surly parka monkeys, there's plenty of room for escape. This line-up is one of the most finger-on-the-pulse of the year, so there'll be plenty of rising grime, wonky indie funk and stuff with autocorrect-unfriendly names to go and discover.
You mean Camelphat, Haai, Detlef and Not3s? Not to mention Sasasas, IAMDDB and OikoikoikyaHOOOO.
How many of those did you just make up? One. Anybody want to book them?

The one for Noel people instead

TRAMLINES

When: 20-22 July
Where: Hillsborough Park, Sheffield
Who's headlining: Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds, Stereophonics, Craig David's TS5
Who else is playing: Clean Bandit, Blossoms, De La Soul, Jake Bugg
Tickets: £79, weekend ticket

While brother Liam is heading to municipal parks in Manchester and London, big bro Noel takes to the stage in Sheffield. Undoubtedly, it's a glorious time to be a fan of both tram networks and Oasis. Best just bite the bullet and go to both. Let the lager flinging commence!

PHOTOS: DEAN CHALKLEY, GETTY

Liam Gallagher

What can we expect from your festival shows?
"We come back from Europe and we've got a bit of rehearsing time to freshen the set up for [my headline show at London's] Finsbury Park and all the festivals."

Will you be dusting off any Oasis classic tunes you haven't yet done solo?
"'Champagne Supernova' might come out. 'Cast No Shadow', 'Bring It On Down' – the world is my oyster with all them."

Since Noel had a scissor player on Later... With Jools Holland, your fans have turned up to your shows with potato peelers, causing Parklife festival to ban the handy kitchen items. What do you reckon?
"It's a shame they've been banned, man. They're good for chopping things out and that [mimes chopping out, er, powder]. It's not all about peeling potatoes, is it?"

MIA headlines Bestival this year

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for space cadets

STANDON CALLING

When: 26-29 July
Where: Standon Lordship, Hertfordshire
Who's headlining: Paloma Faith, George Ezra, Bryan Ferry
Who else is playing: Goldfrapp, Django Django, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, The Horrors
Tickets: £159, weekend ticket

Also keeping the boutique end up, Standon has one of those something-for-everyone line-ups and a 'future' theme for 2018, so expect to be surrounded by lots of infants dressed as Porgs and pissed dads being tin foil robots.

NME AT THE FESTIVALS 2018
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The one for the unrepentant cosplayer

BESTIVAL

When: 2-5 August
Where: Lulworth Estate, Dorset
Who's headlining: London Grammar, MIA, Grace Jones, Plan B
Who else is playing: Silk City, Chaka Khan, First Aid Kit, Mura Masa, Thundercat
Tickets: £172, weekend camping

Aren't boutique festivals a bit, well, 2008? With Secret Garden Party hanging up its glittertits for good last year and Bestival 2017 a waterslide-level mudbath, you might have thought that time was being called on the British summer's costumed tomfoolery, that never again would we be treated to the sight of a field full of Noddys gyrating along to Mr Motivator's crack of dawn exercise class. But this boutique behemoth is pulling on its sci-fi lycra catsuit, grabbing its trident and parading defiantly onwards.
Ah, the legendary parade. What's this year's theme? It's circus, but we'd warn the more intrepid attendees to avoid trying to unicycle across the notoriously craggy Lulworth Estate, Dorset site, unless you've a certificate to prove you once scaled Kilimanjaro on one wheel.
Hang on, didn't Bestival used to be on the Isle Of Wight? It did, but moved onto the mainland for 2017. The smaller site revived its inclusive boutique feel last year, at least in the parts of the site where the drunk Zeuses could stay on their feet.

London Grammar

You're headlining Bestival – one of a full set of three femaie-fronted headliners. Wahey Bestival! What have you got planned?
Dan Rothman (guitarist):
"Headlining Bestival is a really serious thing. We love that festival. Dot [Major]'s been many time's as a punter, we played there a bunch of times a few years ago, so for us it needs to be special. We'll make sure it is."

What else have you guys been up to recently?
Dot Major (vocals, percussionist, keyboards):
"Touring and secret things. We had a little time to relax, then did the standard thing of saying, 'We're not going to see each other for six months.' After a couple of months, we really missed each other. So we've been hanging out."

STANDON CALLING

HERTFORDSHIRE: 26-29 JULY 2018

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GOLDFRAPP · DJANGO DJANGO · BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB

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IAMDDB
JAMES HOLDEN & THE ANIMAL SPIRITS
JORDAN RAKEI
KURUPT FM
LOYLE CARNER
MADLIB
MOSES SUMNEY
MOUNT KIMBIE
MR JUKES
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YOUR TOWN. YOUR MUSIC. YOUR STYLE

What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

South By Southwest

‹ DAN MURPHY
28, product manager

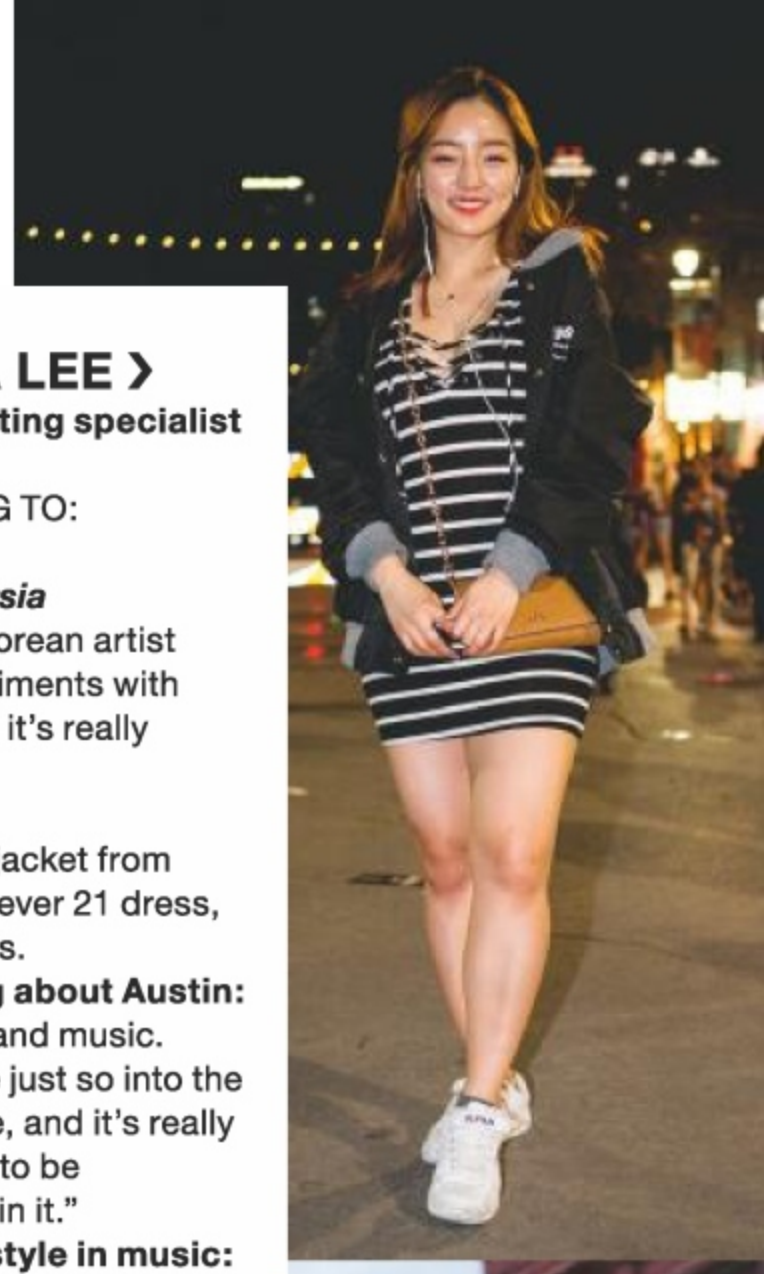
LISTENING TO:
LOTUS
Greet The Mind
"Most of their songs are instrumental. So you can just put them on and skate through the city."

Wearing: Cerebral Brewing hat, vintage shirt, Patagonia trousers, Nike trainers.
Best thing about Austin: "The parks! They do a really good job of making space for everybody."
Best hairstyle in music: "Cher – it created her. Iconic."

JAKARI WRENCHER ›
22, student

LISTENING TO:
PRINCESS NOKIA
Goth Kid
"She's an outcast and I relate so hard. I understand that pain!"

Wearing: homemade dress, Payless shoes.
Best thing about Austin: "The people – I love all the weirdos!"
Best hairstyle in music: "Solange – everytime she changes her hair, I want to copy it!"



LEENA LEE ›
23, marketing specialist

LISTENING TO:
CIFIKA
Intelligentsia
"She's a Korean artist who experiments with sound and it's really unusual."

Wearing: jacket from Korea, Forever 21 dress, Fila trainers.
Best thing about Austin: "The vibe and music. People are just so into the music here, and it's really refreshing to be immersed in it."
Best hairstyle in music: "It's got to be CIFKA."

"The way that people come together. It's just a beautiful thing to see."

JUSTICE SHAW ›
24, rapper

LISTENING TO:
DRAKE
God's Plan
"He did something bigger and better than music. He let people know that he's here for them and not just for the music."

Wearing: jacket and shirt from Las Vegas, Elite Premium Denim jeans, Nike Air Jordan trainers.
Best thing about Austin: "The way that people come together. There's nobody out here causing any problems. It's just a beautiful thing to see."
Best hairstyle in music: "Lil Uzi Vert, surely?"

PHOTOS: JENN FIVE

MSAKI (ASANDA MUANA) ›

30, artist

LISTENING TO:
AUGUST GREENE
Black Kennedy
"I usually struggle with hip-hop fusion, but I think this has a really interesting sound."

Wearing: Mahoney hat, vintage shirt, Superella skirt, Pamela Lindgren necklace.
Best thing about Austin: "It's a city that soaks up its artforms - there's graffiti on the walls, and music venues are a prominent part of Austin."
Best hairstyle in music: "Thandiswa Mazwai - her hairstyle is crazy. Incredible braided mohawks!"

JEFFREY BROWNE ›

19, student

LISTENING TO:
MGMT
Little Dark Age
"It's got a dark ominous feel, and an '80s kind of vibe too. It's perfect."

Wearing: vintage bandana, American Eagle Outfitters shirt, Quiksilver trousers, Sanuk shoes.
Best thing about Austin: "The food scene. I'm a vegetarian and even I had to try the brisket!"
Best hairstyle in music: "Post Animal have some really great hair."

‹ ANTHONY KING

26, filmmaker

LISTENING TO:
THE JAPANESE HOUSE
Clean
"She sounds like a modern Imogen Heap. You feel like you're in a room of sound and it takes over your whole body."

Wearing: Forever 21 shirt, Uniqlo trousers, Nike trainers.
Best thing about Austin: "The BBQ. That's it. BBQ."
Best hairstyle in music: "Solange – she literally has a song all about hair."

‹ JANELLE WHITEHEAD

29, barista

LISTENING TO:
SHO BARAKA
Pianos In Jericho
"It challenges us to look at our own hearts and motivations before attacking others."

Wearing: Goorin Bros. hat, Stephanie Rose top, vintage skirt, Teysha shoes.
Best thing about Austin: "There is never a lack of things to do. Every weekend brings a new event to the city."
Best hairstyle in music: "Sudan Archives is my favourite."

"Every weekend brings a new event to the city"

The one for grime and hip hop lovers

WIRELESS

When: 6-8 July
Where: Finsbury Park, London
Who's headlining: J Cole, Stormzy, DJ Khaled
Who else is playing: Post Malone, Migos, J Hus, Giggs, Rick Ross, Partynextdoor
Tickets: £55-62 day tickets

Blimey – that's quite the line-up, isn't it? Correct! Wireless has swiftly become London's most exciting city-based fest allowing the cream of the British crop – Stormzy, J Hus, Giggs – to square up against the US's finest, from Migos to J Cole, in North London. In fact, Wireless has seen the grime at its edges gradually creep centre-stage over the past few years, making it the country's premiere grime day out.
What makes it spesh? Stormzy, Migos, Post Malone, Lil Uzi Vert, French Montana, Rae Sremmurd and J Cole's sets are UK festival exclusives, so you literally won't see them anywhere else this summer. It's also DJ Khaled's first ever European set – so be gentle with him. Wireless, as you can see, is exclusive AF. Well, apart from the fact that they've decided to let Tim Westwood in again.
One second – where are all the women at? Very good point. The Wireless bill is suffering from a severe case of too many man this year. Let's hope they welcome more women in 2019, or we'll be boycotting Finsbury Park and hitting up Rowan's bowling alley instead.
Are there, like, any women this year? It's not a *total* sausage party, but it is sadly overwhelmingly bloke-y. However, the excellent Mabel and Cardi B are playing and both are worth yelling yourself hoarse for.

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for disco divas

LOVEBOX

When: 13-14 July
Where: Gunnersbury Park, London
Who's headlining: Childish Gambino, Skepta, N.E.R.D
Who else is playing: Diplo, Annie Mac, Anderson .Paak & The Free Nationals, Vince Staples, Mura Masa, Big Boi
Tickets: £115, 2-day ticket

East London's big-hearted rap, dance and electro mainstay, which grew from a Groove Armada club residence in 2002, shifts west for its 17th event. Go there if nothing more than for the chance to gaze on Donald 'Childish Gambino' Glover in the flesh.

PHOTO: GETTY

Marilyn Manson

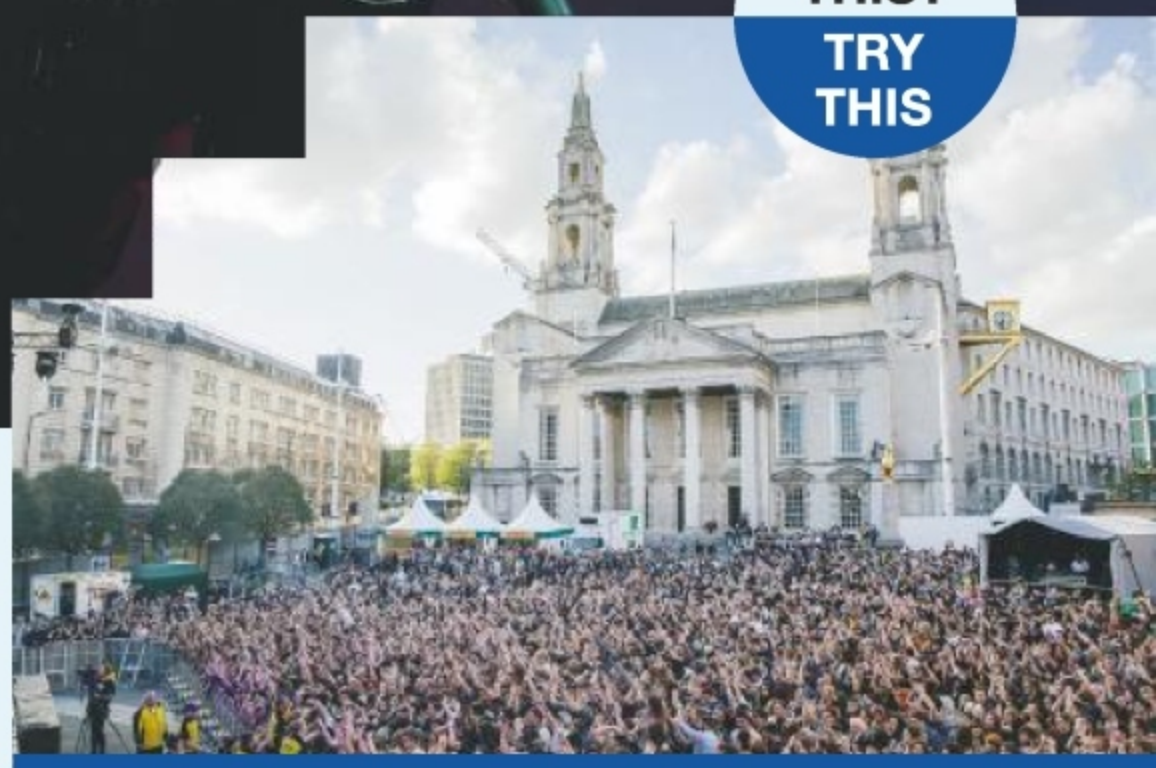
LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for serious rockers

DOWNLOAD

When: 8-10 June
Where: Donnington Park, Leicestershire
Who's headlining: Avenged Sevenfold, Guns N' Roses, Ozzy Osbourne
Who else is playing: Bullet For My Valentine, Black Stone Cherry, Marilyn Manson, You Me At Six, Parkway Drive, Rise Against, Andrew WK
Tickets: £200, 3-day camping

RWWOOOAR! HOOOWAAR! CHUGGACHUGG ASATAAAAN! I'm sorry? **Just getting in the mood for Download.** Put that blunt dwarf axe down, you Neanderthal. This isn't some *Dungeons & Dragons* demon-fest. Metal Mecca Download famously draws one of the friendliest and most inclusive crowds of the season, even if the bands they're watching tend to hate pretty much everything you put in front of them. Parents, society, grooming products…
Will Guns N' Roses turn up on time? Word is that Axl Rose has stopped insisting he finish reading Ulysses cover to cover and catch up on the latest series of *Orange Is The New Black* (or whatever the hell he was doing back there) before going onstage, so with any luck we'll have everything wrapped up by curfew.
Hang on, that guy over there has got a blunt dwarf axe too! He's allowed one. He's taking part in a medieval battle re-enactment.
But you said… Shut up.



The one for the dedicated emo

SLAM DUNK

When: 26-28 May
Where: Leeds (various venues) May 26, Hatfield Park May 27 and Birmingham NEC May 28
Who's headlining: Good Charlotte, Jimmy Eat World
Who else is playing: Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Taking Back Sunday, Twin Atlantic, Creeper
Tickets: £49, festival only

Bringing the mayhem to three cities over the bank holiday weekend, Slam Dunk is on a mission to unite the nation against its dads with an emo-tastic and pop-punk-filled bill featuring some legends in their respective fields. Or various venues. Or NECs. Get yourself an angular hairdo and get down there.

M Shadows, Avenged Sevenfold

You're headlining Download for the second time: what does it mean to be asked to do it again?
"I guess that means we didn't mess up too bad on our first time! We're just really honoured to do it, especially with the line-up that's going to be there – Ozzy and Guns N' Roses. It's killer."
With Download, it tends to be the legacy bands playing high up – you just mentioned two of them there. How does it feel to be a rising band playing alongside them?
"Those are the bands I grew up listening to and jumping up and down on the bed playing air-guitar to. By no means do we feel like we're on their level!"
Who else do you see stepping up to reach headline status soon?
"I think [Sheffield rockers and former *NME* cover stars] Bring Me The Horizon can do it."

SUGAR, WE'RE COMING TO TOWN

Fall Out Boy: (l-r) Joe Trohman, Patrick Stump, Andy Hurley, Pete Wentz

Emo heroes **Fall Out Boy** are headlining Reading & Leeds this year. **Tom Connick** asked bassist **Pete Wentz** what to expect

You're headlining Reading & Leeds! You and that festival have some history.
Pete Wentz: "Yeah! We co-headlined before [in 2016], but we played second to last. It's just been a cool, real build for us over the years. We're pretty psyched."

What are your best memories of Reading & Leeds?
"I think that backstage is just wild, when you're like, 'Oh man, Trent Reznor just walked by' I grew up listening to Nine Inch Nails! It's super surreal. And then I once went with my buddy [DJ/producer] Dillon Francis – we went and watched a Knife Party set, they had this weird house thing built [on the stage], and that was pretty cool. The thing to me that is the wildest is the muddy, crazy kids. It's hard to describe what it is to Americans who haven't experienced British festivals, because it just doesn't sound like it makes sense, but I'm like, 'No it's a lot of fun… but it's pretty crazy.'"

Panic! At The Disco are topping the bill as well – you've both been friends forever, and have followed a similar trajectory. Is it nice to both be topping the bill at the same time?
"Yeah, it's pretty crazy, and in some ways it's great for the perspective, because it's hard to see when you're the one looking out. Brendon [Urie, P!ATD] really started young, as a kid, and to watch him, it's like, 'Wow, this guy is headlining this thing…' It feels pretty cool. It always feels better when you've made it with your friends."

You both started out as rock and emo bands, and you've moved towards a more diverse, pop-influenced sound – particularly on your new album 'Mania'. What brought that on?
"We went away for three years, and when we came back the landscape of music was utterly different. I mean like, how people listen to music - streaming was a thing, people were curating their own playlists, and it really became apparent to us that genre mattered less. The kids are like, 'I can listen to Lil Uzi Vert and then I listen to Diplo and then I listen to Panic! At The Disco', or whatever. For us, it's freeing, because we were always this band that leaned in other directions, but you're withheld a little bit by whatever you think the parameters are. In order to do new music that was compelling to people, we had to reinvent ourselves."

"It's hard to describe British festivals to Americans" – Pete Wentz

Were you worried about going out-and-out pop?
"Some of the stuff is there no matter what - Patrick [Stump]'s voice is real signature - but we had to reinvent the whole thing. Honestly, when you do something like that it can go one of two ways, it can either really work or really not work, and I think we got lucky, or like 'right place, right time', for it to work."

Reading & Leeds is similar – it used to be a rock and metal festival and now you've got rap acts such as Kendrick Lamar headlining.
"In my house, we live in a hip hop world. You go to the mall, and all these kids are dressed like Travis Scott, or Kanye, or

PHOTOS: GETTY

Migos. Ezra Koenig from Vampire Weekend tweeted something like, 'If Mick Jagger and Keith Richards started today, they'd start a squad not a band.' I do think it's a larger trend, but I also think that good stuff is just going to come through - you're gonna have all kinds of different, diverse stuff, and if it's good and it reacts with people then it's still gonna make it through."

The emo scene you came up in has been re-evaluated, and 'post emo' artists like Lil Peep are mixing up rock, pop and hip-hop. Do you think emo is more accepted now?

"Totally. I think time does an interesting thing where you get far enough away from things and they look different. When The Beatles started, they were kind of a boy band, and as you get further and further away, time lends… maybe not credibility, but a different perspective on things."

What's next for Fall Out Boy?
"We're in a brave new world. The Weeknd dropped six songs today, and iTunes announced that they're maybe shutting down iTunes. Right now is the time to be like nimble and lithe, and I think that Fall Out Boy is designed to do that. It's just full steam ahead - embrace it."

Fall Out Boy slay Reading Festival in 2016

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for the post-exam blow-out

READING & LEEDS

When: 24-26 August
Where: Richfield Avenue, Reading; Bramham Park, Leeds
Who's headlining: Fall Out Boy, Kendrick Lamar, Kings Of Leon
Who else is playing: Wolf Alice, Pendulum, Skepta, Travis Scott, The Kooks, The Wombats, Panic! At The Disco, Dua Lipa
Tickets: £205, weekend camping

Hmmm, wouldn't most of this line-up have gotten deckchairs and bottles of hot urine thrown at them at Reading & Leeds ten years ago? Some of them actually did – Panic! At The Disco's Brandon Urie was knocked clean out by an unidentified flying excretion in 2006 - but get with the programme, granddad! The new generation of R&L kids demand grime, modernist rap and Annie Mac along with their annual dose of Deaf Havana and post A-Level results day letting-off of steam.
So this is R&L 2.0? Damn right! The UK's prime rock weekend is waking up to the new era of musical eclecticism!
Kings Of Leon are still going to play, though, right? Of course, and no doubt Muse or Arctic Monkeys are pencilled in for 2019.
Thank God, I was starting to question the very fabric of space/time. A brilliant, audacious move all round then… um, I know he's brilliant but is there anything else to watch while Kendrick Lamar's on?
Kate Nash?

The one for old school R&L fans

Y NOT?

When: 26-29 July
Where: Pikehall, Derbyshire
Who's headlining: The Libertines, Catfish & The Bottlemen, Jamiroquai
Who else is playing: Manic Street Preachers, Kaiser Chiefs, The Wombats, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Razorlight

Boasting a bill that would've slayed Reading & Leeds in 2007, Y Not? is fast becoming the diehard indie rocker's summer destination of choice. Last year's event was blighted by the weather demons, resulting in some cancellations. Fingers crossed for sun this year.

InMusic's Tesla Tower in all its glory

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LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for island-hoppers

INMUSIC

When: 25-27 June
Where: Zagreb, Croatia
Who's headlining: Queens Of The Stone Age, Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds
Who else is playing: Interpol, David Byrne, St Vincent, Alice In Chains, The Kills, Superorganism
Tickets: €53, weekend ticket

How much!?! I know, right? That's about £40 in pre-Brexit money.
What is it now? About 53 quid.
Still! A quarter of UK festival prices and no scrimping on the bill. Plus, INMusic is set across three islands in the middle of Lake Jarun in Zagreb – one island for the festival, two for camping – so it's like an island holiday, a city break and a mother-fluffing rock'n'roll monsterfest all in one.
This can't be legal. Well stop it immediately then.
I mean the festival. Ah, such are the joys of Eurofests – it's often cheaper to fly to some exotic locale and swan about a foreign capital for a week to catch the biggest names on the circuit rather than watching them while sinking into a sodden hillside in Staffordshire.
Looks a bit arthouse, this one. The lakeside site has the feel of a cosmopolitan Latitude or Secret Garden Party and yes, if you're very lucky, David Byrne and St Vincent might end up making beautifully cranky music together.

Anna Calvi

The one set in a gorgeous Gallic garden

ROCK EN SEINE

When: 24-26 August
Where: Domaine National de Saint-Cloud, Paris
Who's headlining: Justice, Macklemore
Who else is playing: Anna Calvi, PNL, Post Malone, Thirty Seconds To Mars, Ezra Furman, Cigarettes After Sex
Tickets: €59

Happily, budget prices doesn't mean a budget location. Staged amid the gorgeous park gardens of the Chateau De Saint-Cloud on the banks of the Seine, there are few more picturesque places to get your groove on this summer than at this Parisian party.

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Arctic Monkeys

The one for art rockers

OPEN'ER

When: 4-7 July
Where: Gdynia-Kosakowo Airport
Who's headlining: Arctic Monkeys, Depeche Mode, Gorillaz, Bruno Mars
Who else is playing: Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, Migos, Glass Animals, La Femme, David Byrne, Massive Attack, Young Fathers, Mo, Fleet Foxes
Tickets: Around £120 for a four-day ticket

We're going to a festival in an airport in Poland – why on earth are you packing shorts? Because Open'er happens to be close to Sopot, Poland's most upmarket seaside resort. And the festival doesn't really kick off until mid-afternoon and goes on 'til three or four, so I'm planning on catching a few rays.
But you'll miss the awesome bands! The great thing about Open'er is that it's pretty tough to miss the good stuff. Based on an airstrip with three stages along its length, sets are timed to avoid clashes.
And what's that box-like building in the middle? Is that air traffic control? Nope, that's the onsite museum.
You're pulling my Picasso. Open'er prides itself on its arts schedule, with everything from catwalk shows to art exhibitions and performances of Polish theatre. They even had an epic grunge-themed Polish opera one year.
Right... um... Yes?
Just thinking... Shall I give you a second?
Come As You Aria? You should do this for a living.

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one with literally all of the headliners

MAD COOL

When: 12-14 July
Where: Valdebebas, Madrid
Who's headlining: Arctic Monkeys, Queens Of The Stone Age, Pearl Jam, Jack White, Depeche Mode
Who else is playing: Kasabian, Massive Attack, Franz Ferdinand, Snow Patrol, Nine Inch Nails, Underworld, Tame Impala, Justice
Tickets: €85 day ticket

Rather than select a couple of 2018's festival circuit headliners, Madrid's rising mega-gig just went ahead and booked pretty much all of them. Talk about a one-stop shop for rock. Kasabian don't often appear under anyone else, and nor do Tame Impala for that matter. We're getting FOMO just thinking about the clashes.

PHOTO: ANDY HUGHES

7 reasons you'd be mad to miss Open'er

The Polish festival is one of the gems of the European circuit with great bands, cheap tickets and a welcoming atmosphere

1 IT'S RIDICULOUSLY REASONABLY PRICED

A four-day ticket with camping will only set you back £137 (£120 without camping). You won't even have to drop too much change on flying out – budget airlines Ryanair and Wizz Air both fly to Gdansk from all over the UK.

2 ARCTIC MONKEYS ARE HEADLINING

By the time Open'er rolls around, Alex Turner and co will have released their new album, 'Tranquility Base Hotel & Casino'. Last time the frontman appeared in Gdynia (with The Last Shadow Puppets in 2016), he made up an impromptu song about Tame Impala and an impending storm live on stage. Who knows what he'll do this time?

Arctic Monkeys

PHOTO: REX FEATURES

3 YOU CAN CHILL AT THE BEACH

The festival arena doesn't open until 3pm so you'll have most of the day to explore the local area. If you're in Gdynia or Sopot that means one glorious thing - a lazy morning rejuvenating on the beach before heading back to make the most of the festival and its awesome atmosphere.

4 GORILLAZ ARE BRINGING THEIR STAR-STUDDED ROADSHOW

One of the best festival shows last year was Damon Albarn's Gorillaz gang recreating 'Humanz' live with all its many brilliant guests. There's no guarantee who'll show up, but given Vince Staples and Little Simz are also on the bill, we're guessing they'll be a shoo-in.

Migos

5 THE LINE-UP'S INCREDIBLY ECLECTIC

And it's a reflection of Open'er's open-minded audience. Where else can you catch kings of goth Depeche Mode in the same space as new hip-hop royalty Migos? Or rock out with Marmozets before getting emotional to Fleet Foxes? The scope, as well as the quality, of acts is what makes this one of Europe's best line-ups this summer.

6 THERE'S MORE THAN JUST MUSIC ON OFFER

Fancy a break from all the killer bands on the bill? There's plenty of non-musical action going down at Open'er too. Give your feet a rest and settle down with a flick in the cinema, work a new look in the fashion zone, or expand your knowledge and learn some facts in the museum.

7 YOU CAN CATCH POLAND'S BIGGEST POP STAR

If you're going all the way to Poland for a festival, you might as well investigate some of the more local bookings. Dawid Podsiadło is one of the country's biggest pop stars and his last appearance at the festival drew a mammoth crowd. Find out what all the fuss is about when he returns this year.

The details

OPEN'ER
Where: Gdynia-Kosakowo Airport
When: July 4-7
Who's Playing: Arctic Monkeys, Depeche Mode, Gorillaz, Migos, Bruno Mars
Tickets: £54-£137

DON'T BE A DICK THIS FESTIVAL SEASON

Because we're all fenced in together

We are all – you, me, that woman over there – mega excited about the upcoming festival season. The boozy mornings! The secret gigs! The giddy rush when your favourite band plays your favourite song to tens of thousands of loved-up people! Mainly the boozy mornings! And yet. Someone always finds a way to be a dick at a festival, let loose from their lives and free to inflict their awful, uninhibited personalities on the unsuspecting public for three, possibly four whole days. Yet it needn't be this way. Please, for the sake of us all, for everyone's benefit – don't be dick this festival season.

Don't sit on someone's shoulders in front of everyone
We see you up there, your pal's head sprouting up from between your legs like a lost chest-burster from *Alien*. Look, we're all friends here, yeah? No-one's saying I'll blast you out of the air lock, *no-one*'s saying I'll scorch you with a flame-thrower, but – hoo boy! – will I ever give you a dirty look.

Don't piss on my tent in the middle of the night
Don't do it at any time, really, please. Piss on your own tent, if your must. Piss on your own tent as if it were a canvas urinal containing your essential belongings, but leave mine as dry as the over-cooked burger that just cost me eight quid.

Don't hold a sign that says "free hugs"
We're on to you, pervert.

Don't wear a morph suit
Congratulations, you look like a condom.

Don't shout "Alan!!" over and over again
It was funny when the BBC made that TV show where they dubbed human voices onto clips of wild animals in 2009 and one of them shouted "Alan!" a lot, wasn't it? Oh yes, ho ho ho, it was very funny indeed. We all laughed in the year 2009. Yet the year is now 2018. We all like Brockhampton and have started our own podcasts. Give it a rest, you time machine ballbags.

Don't bottle acts you don't like
Imagine there's a piece of your soul in every bottle you chuck at the stage, because it's sort of true.

Don't start a circle pit to The Vaccines
Or any other act that really doesn't warrant a circle or mosh pit. If you find yourself charging at some poor kid as Jesse Ware sings softly over plaintive keys on 'Alone', maybe get you some anger management.

Don't be a Minion
Apparently it's become a thing to go to a festival dressed up as a Minion from the *Despicable Me* films, which – a reminder – are made for children. You're a grown human adult. You have work on Tuesday. What are you doing? You look like a tumour in a boiler suit.

Don't play your acoustic guitar in the campsite
"*For after all / your talent is small*".

Don't wear a mankini
F***'s sake. Dress as a Minion if you have to. I mean, Christ, wear a morph suit if you really must. Just… do me a favour and just keep that thing away from me. You're not Borat. You're not a bellend on a stag do in Bratislava. You look like a burst sausage, sliding out of its skin.

WORDS JORDAN BASSETT ILLUSTRATION SAM TAYLOR

FREE
HUGS

Rock in Rio

LISBON 2018

artplan

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The one on the wrong continent

ROCK IN RIO

When: 23-30 June
Where: Bela Vista Park, Lisbon
Who's headlining: Muse, The Killers, Bruno Mars, Katy Perry
Who else is playing: Bastille, Haim, Jessie J, The Chemical Brothers, Demi Lovato
Tickets: €117 per weekend ticket

Whoop! We are flying down to Rio! At the Copa! Copacabana...
Sorry, put that gigantic peacock headdress away, we're not going to Rio.
But I distinctly heard you say we're going to Rock In Rio. So let's rock! In Rio!
Y'see, the mistake you've made there is assuming that Rock In Rio only ever happens in Rio. They hold them in Vegas, Madrid and Lisbon now as well.
Yay! We're going to Vegas!
Nope. This year's event is in Lisbon.
That's brilliant, yet I feel mildly disappointed.
Don't. Think of the budget flights. And this: Rock In Rio plays over two weekends, so after Bruno Mars there's a full week to hang out in Lisbon before The Killers and Katy Perry wrap it up.
That's amazing! But imagine how much more amazing it would've been in actual Rio... Alright, alright, we'll go to Rio next year.

PHOTO: GETTY

The one that's 'the little festival that could'

ROCK WERCHTER

When: 5-8 July
Where: Werchter, Belgium
Who's headlining: Gorillaz, Queens Of The Stone Age, The Killers, Pearl Jam, Arctic Monkeys
Who else is playing: Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, London Grammar, Nine Inch Nails, Jack White, Fleet Foxes, Snow Patrol, Franz Ferdinand, Anne-Marie
Tickets: €102 day tickets

Beginning as a small local fest in 1974, the relatively teensy, 88,000-capacity Rock Werchter has become a major draw for international talent, boasting a phenomenal 2018 line-up of stars both major and rising – check out our festie guide coverwrap star Anne-Marie on the Thursday night.

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The one for a city break win

PRIMAVERA SOUND

When: 30 May – 3 June
Where: Parc del Forum, **Barcelona**
Who's headlining: Bjork, Arctic Monkeys, Lorde
Who else is playing: Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds, The War On Drugs, Migos, Fever Ray, Spiritualized, Tyler The Creator, The Breeders, Father John Misty, A$AP Rocky
Tickets:€215

Barcelona, romantic city of dreamers... A beautiful place, full of such surrealist architecture that Björk could probably wander Las Ramblas while she's there, pretending to be a Gaudi statue and charging tourists a small fortune.
The line-up's been called "a work of art" by Vice as well. "Absolutely huge" says NME, "a thing of beauty" gushes Consequence Of Sound. Certainly Primavera appears to be challenging Mad Cool for the European line-up of the year.
Aren't Spiritualized bringing an orchestra? Hopefully to the stage overlooking the Balearic Sea. Sigh.
It's another of those late-starter festivals too? Nothing happens in Spain before 10pm, so like all the best Spanish festivals Primavera starts late and alternates its monumental acts on paired stages until dawn. So you'll be free to see off your three-day hangover with an edifying visit to The Sagrada Familia.
Or we could sit in Plaça de Catalunya with a bottle of rioja.
Read my mind.

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one where everything's organic

ØYA

When: 7-11 August
Where: Tøyenparken, Oslo
Who's headlining: Arctic Monkeys, Kendrick Lamar, Arcade Fire
Who else is playing: Lykke Li, Wolf Alice, J Hus, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Jenny Lewis, Sleaford Mods

Amongst Europe's most environmentally friendly festivals (see also: Way Out West), Øya is the place to go to watch the finest bands of the 2018 festival season while chowing down on its least bowel-threatening cuisine.

Jack White

The one with the amazing backdrop

BEAUREGARD

When: 6-9 July
Where: Herouville Saint-Clair, France
Who's headlining: Jack White, The Offspring, Soulwax, Macklemore, Depeche Mode
Who else is playing: MGMT, At The Drive-In, Simple Minds, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, The Breeders, Charlotte Gainsbourg, LA Salami
Tickets: €120

For fans of eye-bursting settings, try Normandy's most elegant festival in the grounds of the neon-lit Chateau de Beauregard.

PHOTO: GARBINE IRIZOR, IHNE PEDERSEN, GETTY

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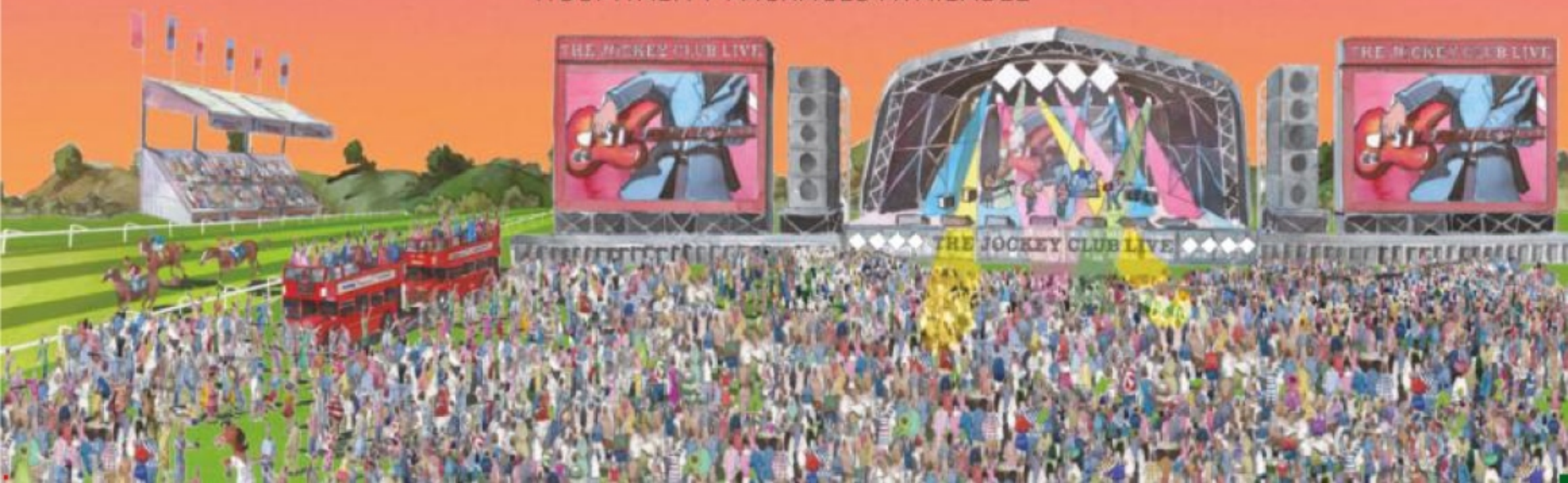

Leaders of the pack

Theo Ellis of Latitude-bound badasses **Wolf Alice** looks forward to a summer in the fields

You're supporting Liam Gallagher at Finsbury Park in June. What does that mean to you?
Theo Ellis: "I can't speak for everyone, but I think the general consensus is it's just f***ing mega really, innit! What's better than getting an offer to support Liam Gallagher? Oasis were untouchable."

Which festival, if you had to choose one, do you want to headline?
"I want to headline Glastonbury. It's the best festival, isn't it? I always went to Reading as a kid, but now that I've been to Glastonbury, I've realised that it's f***ing sick and I want to headline it."

You're headlining the BBC Radio 1 tent at Reading & Leeds. Does that feel like a milestone for you?
"Yeah, that was where all my friends went to watch our favourite bands – in that tent, at that festival. It was always the bands that we thought were cool playing there and to get the opportunity to headline, it's just really, really exciting."

What was the first festival Wolf Alice played and what are your memories of that?
"I wasn't in Wolf Alice when they played their first festival, but the first one I remember playing was Beacons Festival in 2013. That was a classico night. Royal Blood were on before us and I remember everyone walking around going, 'Oi, those guys are gonna be really, really big.' [Former tour manager and The Holloways drummer] Dave Danger also convinced the people who owned the bouncy castle to let us go on for free cos we said we were doing a video interview for *NME*."

What's your funniest festival memory?
"Me and Ellie [Rowsell, singer] set up a tent in the dark at Fieldview. We realised when these huge headlights and a couple of golf buggies were coming towards us that we'd pitched it in the middle of a road. When we played Reading one year, I went to sleep in the van. I remember just waking up like, 'Sh*t, I've got to go play Reading', and finding the police were looking in the back of the Transit."

Wolf Alice: (l-r) Theo Ellis, Ellie Rowsell, Joff Oddie, Joel Amey

Latitude.
Pink sheep, for once, not pictured

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one for the literati

LATITUDE

When: 12-15 July
Where: Henham Park, Suffolk
Who's headlining: The Killers, Solange, Alt-J
Who else is playing: The Vaccines, Wolf Alice, Rag'n'Bone Man, James, Mogwai, The Breeders, Alvvays
Tickets: £197, weekend camping

Latitude – that's kind of like the festival equivalent of when David Mitchel married Victoria Coren. Correct. It's the kind of weekend where you drag yourself away from watching Anthony & The Johnsons to pick the kids up from an impressionist poetry workshop and catch the entire Ring Cycle performed in the medium of interpretive ballet, on a lake.

Pretentious? Moi? Cracking bill though. Bang-for-your-leftfield-indie-buck, probably the best of the summer.
Are you trying to get on the poster? They can't afford me (seriously, Latitude, you can definitely afford me). The Killers, Wolf Alice, The Breeders, Alvvays – it's the indie rocker's dream ticket. And that's before they let slip any of the secret sets that make it worthwhile to peg it from the main stage headliners to the woodland Sunrise Arena every night to see who might show up. Thom Yorke did a famously technologically challenged one in 2016.
Didn't Ed Sheeran do one as well? My psychiatrist has advised me to bury the memory deep.

St Vincent

The one for the refined alt-rock beardo

END OF THE ROAD

When: 30 August - 2 September
Where: Larmer Tree Gardens, Wiltshire
Who's headlining: Vampire Weekend, St Vincent, Feist
Who else is playing: Yo La Tengo, Ezra Furman, Jeff Tweedy, Fat White Family, John Cale
Tickets: £195, weekend camping

The righteously indier-than-thou shindig at the end of the season, EOTR is the anti-Wireless and an essential destination for anyone who knows their Hookworms from their Snapped Ankles. Brilliantly summed up by comedian Bridget Christie as being like a festival in an episode of *Midsomer Murders.*

INTERVIEW: RHIAN DALY PHOTOS: DEAN

LIKE THIS

TRY THIS

The one in a beachy paradise

HIDEOUT

When: 25-29 June
Where: Zrce Beach, Croatia
Who's headlining: AJ Tracey, Andy C
Who else is playing: Bugzy Malone, Gorgon City, Skream, Apollonia, Chase & Status, Eats Everything
Tickets: £159

We going 'Beefa? Sure looks like we are, doesn't it. But, actually, we're going to one of Croatia's most stunning island beach resorts, the isle of Pag – home to the international jet set A-list most of the summer, and a raver's paradise for the weekend of Hideout. Croatia is, of course, home to tons of festivals.
This one is basically DJs and grime acts on a beach, then? The very best DJs and grime acts, on the very best beach. And that's not to mention the daytime pool parties where the party cranks up, and the boat parties that cram hundreds of 24-hour party people onto massive ferries and feed them cocktails like spring break never got overpriced.
Are there watersports? More than Donald Trump's had hot, well, watersports. Flyboarding, paddle surfing, inflatables - this is essentially the beach party of Brendon from *Coach Trip*'s wildest dreams.

The one on a fort of freedom

EXIT

When: 12-15 July
Where: Petrovaradin Fortress, Novi Sad, Croatia
Who's headlining: David Guetta, Grace Jones, Migos
Who else is playing: Fever Ray, LP, Ziggy Marley, Slaves
Tickets: £98

Exit was launched by students fighting for Serbian democracy in 2000; today it's just as much about coming together over jugs of beer in the Petrovaradin Fortress's stunning courtyards.

PHOTO:GETTY, JENN FIVE

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one on a ‘magic island’

SZIGET

When: 8-15 August
Where: Óbudai-sziget, Budapest, Hungary
Who’s headlining: Arctic Monkeys, Dua Lipa, Gorillaz, Kendrick Lamar, Kygo, Lana Del Rey, Mumford & Sons, Shawn Mendes
Who else is playing: Bastille, Liam Gallagher, Lykke Li, Blossoms, Stormzy, The War On Drugs
Tickets: €299 for 7-day pass

A ‘magic island’, you say? Well, ferries whisk punters across the Danube to an island in the middle of the river, where the air is full of balloons, crazies on zipwires and bars that get hoisted half a mile above the site on a crane.
Sounds like somewhere Noel Fielding might go on holiday. He’d be a Sziget redcoat. Oh, and did we mention the boat party and the traditional Hungarian village in the middle of the site and the log-cabin shops around the outskirts? You can go full Pinocchio here if you fancy.
Might well do that. So it’s a bit Glastonbury-y? Exactly! It’s a bit Glastonbury-y, but usually without the mud and definitely with more Hungarian pop music.
Any downsides? Only that it prides itself on being a pan-European celebration of unity, and you’re a pre-Brexit Brit. Best start working on your Irish accent.

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

Arcade Fire

The one that’s basically Germany’s Reading & Leeds

ROCK AM RING/ ROCK IM PARK

When: 1-3 June
Where: Nürburgring and Nuremburg, Germany
Who’s headlining: Foo Fighters, Gorillaz, 30 Seconds To Mars, Muse
Who else is playing: Rise Against, Alt-J, Marilyn Manson, Snow Patrol, A Perfect Circle
Tickets: 239, weekend camping

If you’re after a rather more hardcore city-based adventure, this travelling cavalcade of major rock names hits two sites over the same weekend, R&L-style.

The one that’s not-quite Denmark’s Glasto

ROSKILDE

When: 30 June – 7 July
Where: Roskilde, Denmark
Who’s headlining: Eminem, Gorillaz, Bruno Mars, Nine Inch Nails
Who else is playing: Cardi B, David Byrne, Khalid, Fever Ray, First Aid Kit, Fleet Foxes, My Bloody Valentine, Stormzy, St Vincent
Tickets: Around £247 for full festival ticket

The Danish Glastonbury, they say… And they wish. But Roskilde is keen to promote Worthy Farm levels of vibes between its citizens. Campsites are open days before the music starts and neighbourly love is positively. The coolest camps form the area known as Dream City, where your late-night party needs will be fully catered for throughout the fest.

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CURÆTION-25 | DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE | DEFTONES
THE LIBERTINES | MANIC STREET PREACHERS | MOGWAI
MY BLOODY VALENTINE | NINE INCH NAILS
PLACEBO | THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS
65DAYSOFSTATIC | ALCEST | FRIGHTENED RABBIT | GOD IS AN ASTRONAUT
KRISTIN HERSH | LOW | MAYBESHEWILL | MONO
THE NOTWIST | SUZANNE VEGA
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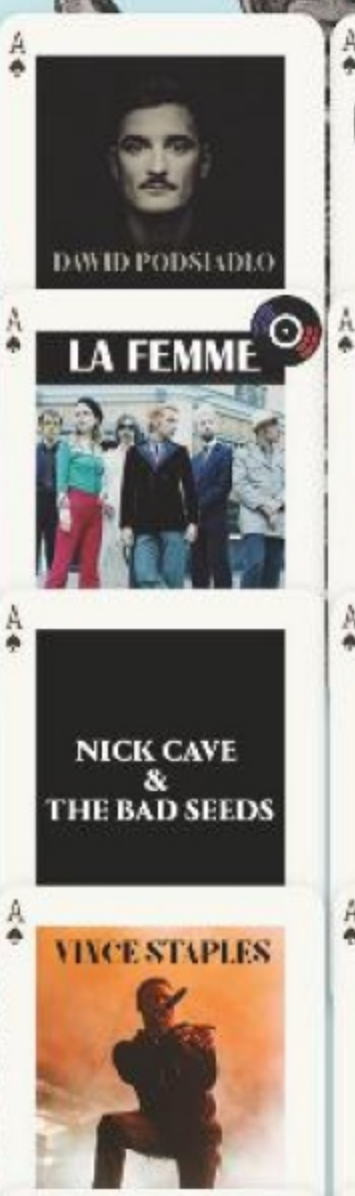

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Chainsmokers

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS

The one out to eat the entire country

THE BIGGEST WEEKEND

When: 25-28 May
Where: Titanic Slipways, Belfast; Scone Palace, Perth; Singleton Park, Swansea; War Memorial Park, Coventry
Who's headlining: Beck, Nigel Kennedy, Sam Smith, Liam Gallagher, Underworld, Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds, Taylor Swift
Who else is playing: Ed Sheeran, Orbital, Manic Street preachers, Jess Glynne, The Breeders, Franz Ferdinand, The Chainsmokers, Thirty Seconds To Mars
Tickets: Was £18 for a day ticket; your best bet now is BBC competitions

Whereas British Summer Time fills six days of Hyde Park shows with one-day events curated by major name headliners, The Biggest Weekend is doing eight across the country over the course of a single bank holiday weekend. Beck and Underworld top bills in Belfast, Sam Smith and Taylor Swift do the biz in Swansea, Liam Gallagher and Nigel Kennedy head up the two-dayer in Coventry and Noel Gallagher and Nigel Kennedy play in Perth.
WTF!?! I know, it's almost like Noel and Liam are on the same bill! 'Sis-tastic!

So this is the BBC basically having a dick-waggling contest with British Summer Time. Certainly looks like it.

No, I mean Nigel Kennedy? The violin punk bloke? Headlining two nights? Ah, yes, about that. Two of the days are quite Radio 3.

Bruno Mars

The one flying in the face of the Russian oligarchs

BRITISH SUMMER TIME

When: 6-15 July
Where: Hyde Park, London
Who's headlining: The Cure, Roger Waters, Bruno Mars, Michael Buble, Paul Simon, Eric Clapton
Who else is playing: Interpol, Richard Ashcroft, Ride, Editors, Santana, Van Morrison, Bananarama
Tickets: Prices vary.

Aging rockers and pop fluff dominate the annual week-long Hyde Park big gig marathon, defying the noise complaints of the Russian billionaires of Park Lane as they busy themselves covertly funding the Tories. Still, The Cure should be good. Get your Pimms mugs and territorial rugs ready.

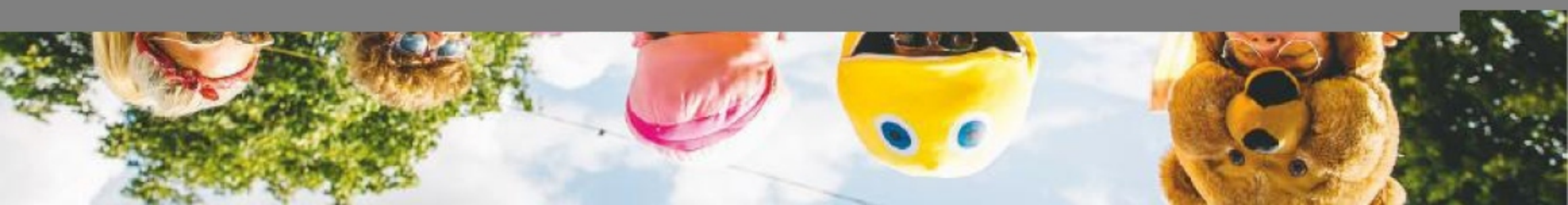
MINI INTERVIEW

Nicky Wire, Manic Street Preachers

Are you looking forward to festival season?
"Yeah, everything is about trying to get the new album ['Resistance Is Futile'] to breathe in as many ways and places as it can. It feels like an album that needs to be heard in bigger spaces."

Other than the new stuff, what can we expect from your sets on tour?
"We'll be playing some proper obscurities like 'Forever Delayed', 'Prologue To History' and 'Horses Under Starlight', and we've been practicing some tracks to celebrate 20 years of [1998 album] 'This Is My Truth...'."
Anyone else you're looking forward to seeing this summer?
"I'm looking forward to seeing Liam [Gallagher] at Rize Festival. I'd love to catch Sunflower Bean somewhere. I'm massively addicted to that record ['Twentytwo In Blue']. It's the first band I've wanted to be in for a long, long time. Everything about them – the visuals, the look, the lyrics, and [Julia Cumming] is an amazing bassist. Everything about them is ultra-cool. You just think 'why isn't that being embraced by everybody on a gigantic level?'"

PHOTO: ED MILES, GETTY, LUKE DYSON, GOBINDER JHITTA



Soundtrack of my life

Anne-Marie

Pop star, Essex girl, Rockabye-er

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

ALANIS MORISSETTE

Ironic

"I think my dad bought her album 'Jagged Little Pill' when I was a kid so we grew up listening to her in our household. She's so raw and I love her lyricism. It made me realise that you didn't just have to write about broken hearts – it had humour too, which I try to put into my songs. She's a huge inspiration. She's a strong, badass chick."

THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

SEAL

Kiss From A Rose

"Before that song, all I did was listen to songs and sing them; I never really got into the subject matter or story. But one day, someone asked me what Seal was singing about and I really listened to it, over and over."

THE FIRST ALBUM I EVER BOUGHT

CHRISTINA AGUILERA

Stripped

"Her music took all of my anxiety away. I listened to it every single day after school. My friends would all be out playing and I'd be at home practising all the ad libs on that album!"

THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

ENTER SHAKARI

Brixton Academy

"When I was younger, I loved dubstep and Enter Shikari were incorporating dubstep into their tunes. They are very poetic and super political, which I think is great to see."

THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

What a Wonderful World

"It was my Nan's funeral song. Ever since, I just can't listen to it. I get overwhelmed by her loss."

THE SONG I DO AT KARAOKE

QUEEN

Bohemian Rhapsody

"My sister and I first sang this on a family holiday and now we do it every time we're near a karaoke box! I love how everyone stops giving a sh*t when they are doing karaoke and people just go for it. Even if you don't know the lyrics to 'Bohemian Rhapsody', you're guaranteed to get involved no matter what."

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE

RUN DMC

It's Like That

"Whenever it comes on at a party, I shut the place down. It's my absolute favourite. My sister and I do dance offs to this song whenever it's on."

THE SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF MY FIRST FESTIVAL

PETE DOHERTY

Last Of The English Roses

"My first festival was V Festival in Chelmsford. I was watching Pete Doherty and Amy Winehouse was just sitting on the stage with him the whole way through, watching. She would come up every now and again to say "make some noise for Pete Doherty!" I remember seeing him play 'Last of The English Roses' – it's one of my favourite songs."

THE SONG I PLAY WHILE GETTING READY

ANDERSON. PAAK

Come Down

"I could listen to his whole album ['Malibu'] while getting ready and then not go out because I just want to listen to it again and again!"

THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

OREN LAVIE

Her Morning

"I want to live forever! But if they haven't figured out a way to do that, it's this. This song has nothing to do with death but every time I listen to it I feel so calm, like nothing in the world matters. I want people to feel like that at my funeral. I want people to be happy and calm."

Anne-Marie's debut album 'Speak Your Mind' is out April 27.

GO TO NME.COM FOR MORE SOUNDTRACKS

LAST WORD

The wisdom of the NME archives

RIHANNA

SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

"You can't stand behind something you don't believe in. You can pretend for a little while, but there's always going to be resentment. I can be who I am and sleep at night, knowing there's no pressure to be anything else."